Tuesday, December 30, 2008 • 5 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 22 / P18



AFTER he fell to his death at Bagumbayan face upward to the glorious morning sun on Dec. 30, 1896, Dr. Jose P. Rizal was dumped in an unmarked grave at the Paco Cemetery in Manila (above).

PDEA bares 3 bribe tries



PIETA-LIKE The "Motherland" shows a woman who may or may not have been romantically linked to the amorous hero cradling him as he lay dying.

Women first in heart of First Filipino

By Gerry Lirio

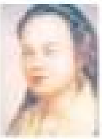
BEFORE HE WAS PUT TO death at age 35 by the Spanish colonial authorities in 1896, the national hero Jose Rizal had romanced and conquered the hearts of a succession of 10 women, according to several Filipino historians.

Quite a feat for a young man who stood no more than 4'11" tall. Leon Ma. Guerrero, author of the award-winning Rizal biography "The First Filipino," essays an explanation for Rizal's early interest in the opposite sex, noting how he grew up in a family of nine sisters and one brother.

"Boys who are brought up among sisters are not usually noted for their virility but Jose, either by way of compensation or because he had been kept so long in boarding school away from feminine company, displayed an early interest in it," Guerrero wrote.

According to Dr. Pablo Trillana III, the author of "The Loves of Rizal" (2000), in his love affairs the hero's popular image as a demigod is stripped and he is revealed to be human after all.

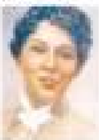
WOMEN A6



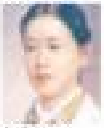
SEGUNDA KATIGBAK



JOSEPHINE BRACKEN: One of two greatest loves.



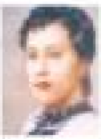
GERTRUDE BECKETTE



O-SEI SAN



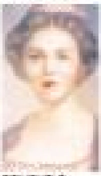
LEONOR RIVERA: Other "greatest love," girlfriend for 11 years.



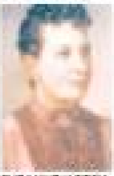
NELLY BOUSTEAD



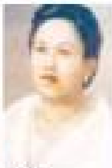
JULIA AT 14: Mother in Los Baños, Laguna, possibly his first love.



CONSUELO ORTIGA



SUZANNE JACOBY



LEONOR VALENZUELA

Congress urged: Keep Rizal Day on Dec. 30

By Dr. Pablo S. Trillana III

COMMENTARY

(The author is former chair of the National Historical Institute and Knight Grand Officer of the Order of the Knights of Rizal.)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1289 seeks to move the observance of Rizal Day, a nonworking public holiday, from Dec. 30, the national hero's death anniversary, to June 19, his birth date. The bill will soon come to the Senate for consideration after the Lower House passed it last month.

I believe there are compelling reasons why we should continue celebrating Rizal Day on Dec. 30.

Rizal's death, not his birth, is the greater event. Socrates said "The unexamined life is not

CONGRESS A6

First try was ₱3M, last offer was ₱20M

By Arlyn dela Cruz
Contributor

THE P50-MILLION alleged bribe to a Department of Justice (DOJ) official was just one of the many bribery offers to have the three "Alabang Boys" released from the custody of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) before Christmas.

This was revealed by the head of the agency's Special Enforcement Service, the unit that led the buy-bust operations that resulted in the arrest of Richard Santos Brodett, Jorge Jordana Joseph and Joseph Ramirez Tecson in Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa and Araneta Center in Quezon City, in September.

Major Ferdinand Marcelino

PDEA A7

Gonzalez bares 'sting' in DOJ to free 'Alabang 3'

By Norman Bordadora

SOMEONE IN HIS DEPARTment tried to pull a fast one on Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez that would have him sign just before the lengthy Christmas break an order for the release of three drug suspects from wealthy families.

Gonzalez also disclosed that

GONZALEZ A7

Palace orders probe of golf war; DAR chief sorry but ...

By Christian V. Esguerra and Mikko Dizon

STEPPING IN TO QUELL a brewing firestorm, Malacañang yesterday ordered an investigation into a golf course brawl involving the sons of Agrarian Reform Secretary Nasser Pangandaman. And Pangandaman himself came out with a public apology but not to his alleged victims.

"The Department of Justice has been directed to investigate the golf course incident and the [filing of] proper charges against those responsible for any violation of law," Deputy Presidential Spokesperson Anthony Golez

PALACE A2

Israel masses tanks for ground offensive

GAZA CITY—ISRAEL BOMBED Gaza for a third day on Monday, in an "all-out war" on Hamas, as tanks massed on the border and the Islamists fired deadly rockets to retaliate for the blitz that has killed nearly 320.

Anger over the mammoth bombing campaign spiraled in the Muslim world, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon again deplored the violence and efforts to hold talks between Syria and Israel were suspended as a result of the bombardment.

With Israeli tanks idling along the border of the battered Palestinian enclave, the Army declared the area a closed military zone—a move that in the past has often been followed by ground operations.

Defense Minister Ehud Barak, who has warned of a possible ground offensive, declared that the Jewish state was in "an all-out war with Hamas and its proxies."

"We will avoid as much as

ISRAEL A7



Big gas firms deny talk of hoarding LPG

By Abigail L. Ho

'TIS THE SEASON THAT'S SUPposed to bring in big bucks for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) dealers because of the surging demand for the fuel. But that's not happening as they continue to incur overhead expenses even if they have no product to sell.

Arnel Ty, president of LPG Marketers Association, said the

BIG GAS A6

Obama vow to quit smoking up in smoke

WILL ONE OF PRESIDENT-elect Barack Obama's New Year's resolutions be to quit smoking once and for all?

His good-humored waffling in various interviews about smoking made it plain that Obama, like many who have vowed to quit at this time of year, had not truly done so.

Obama's heaviest smoking was seven or eight cigarettes a day, but three was more typical.

OBAMA A6



VIPS AT THE CAVES President Arroyo, husband Mike Arroyo, granddaughters and 14 lawmakers visit Sagada with its ancient burial caves in the Mt. Province. Ms Arroyo is showing off a fast-growing town after it "invested in peace and development."

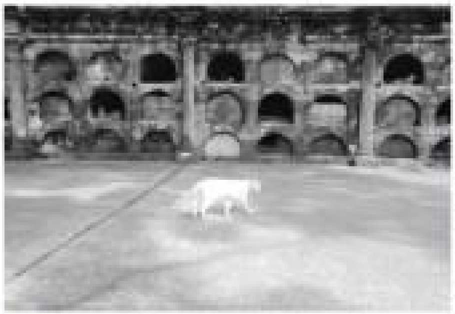
Second FrontPage

MEGALOTTO 6/45

P18,608,426.80

Pinoys have high hopes for '09– SWS

DESPITE GRIM FORECASTS ABOUT THE WORLD economy, nine out of 10 Filipino adults said they would begin the New Year on a hopeful note, according to the latest Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey.



FORGOTTEN GRAVEYARD

DOLE aid sought for 7 welders

New DOT tour packages for Japanese women, seniors

119 injured in pre-New Year festivities



'MEDIA NOCHE' DELIVERIES

UP professor bats for use of mother tongue in grade school

Processing zone surveys set in January

By Kristine L. Alave

Firecracker ban at Naia

By Jerome Aning

Rainy New Year

Anti Cha-cha group holds dance-protest in HK

By Jerome Aning



HUWAG KANG PASAWAY

TETANO

AY NAKAKAMATAY



Huwag balewalain ang paso at sugat na sanhi ng paputok, kahit gaano man kaliit ito.

Hugasan ang sugat ng sabon at malinis na tubig.

Pumunta agad sa health center o ospital para sa bakuna kontra tetano.



TODOH K sa Kalusugan ! OK ka!

Alagaan ang Kalusugan

LABANAN ANG KAHIRAPAN



Like Fort Knox, reports media; nobody wants to talk at Valley Golf, say Antipolo police

Big gas firms deny talk of hoarding LPG

Dela Paz blog on brawl heats up cyberspace

Obama vow to quit smoking up in smoke



Palace orders probe of golf war; DAR chief sorry but ...

Rizal believed in armed struggle as last option, says historian

By Mike Plowden

Letters misinterpreted

Last option

Promoting US goal

Women first in the heart of the First Filipino; 10 at last count

Portraits of lovers

The first woman

Puppy love



TEODORA ALONZO

Girlfriend for 11 years

Other lovers

Just friends

Sayonara

'Sweet foreigner'

Miscarriage

How he won them

Congress urged: Keep Rizal Day on Dec. 30

No blindfold

'We only die once'

Beautiful tradition

Practical reason

THE DAILY GOSPEL

PDEA bares 3 bribe tries

Lawmaker to ask GMA why DOJ junked big La Union drug case

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

Gonzalez bares 'sting' in DOJ to free 'Alabang 3'

3 'Alabang boys' may be transferred to QC jail

Israel masses tanks for ground offensive



DAVID AND GOLIATH

INQUIRER
OPINION

Personal reflections

EDITORIALS

THE END OF THE YEAR IS USUALLY A TIME FOR reflection on what has happened in the past 365 days—accomplishments and failures, victories and defeats, advances and retrogression. Analysts, commentators and editorial writers will write about the national picture. We owe it to ourselves to also reflect individually on what we have done and failed to do in the past year.

A poem by William Wordsworth, "The World Is Too Much with Us," could provide us with a starting point for our reflection. The poem begins thus:

"The world is too much with us; late and soon,
Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers;
Little we see in Nature that is ours;
We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon!"

Alternative futures



Pissed reactions

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

Six years ago today

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Bracing for economic difficulties

Political Tidbits



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

Passion and history

At Large



Rina Jimenez-David

A mistake in Rizal's letters

Newsstand



John Nery

Santa is beautiful

Young Blood

Kim Arveen M. Patria

Notice to Youngblood contributors

'Hello' has become 'goodbye'

LETTERS

Astonishing condemnation

Dutch tells Saint Nicholas' 'story'

Rizal, the national hero, a nobody in Catholic schools

Poverty and greed: principal causes of sea tragedies

Bad president deserves no apology

Across the NATION

Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Villagers in Diwalwal told to flee

TAGUM CITY—OFFICIALS IN THE GOLD-RICH village of Mt. Diwalwal in Monkayo town, Compostela Valley yesterday asked residents in several communities there to flee to safer grounds after several landslides struck the area last week.

NEWSBRIEFS

■ SAN PEDRO, Laguna

4 car thieves held

■ ZAMBOANGA CITY

Bomb detonated

■ DIGOS CITY

Man guns down wife

Firecrackers banned



SHOE STOP

P10-B Palace pro-poor fund called kitty for 2010 polls

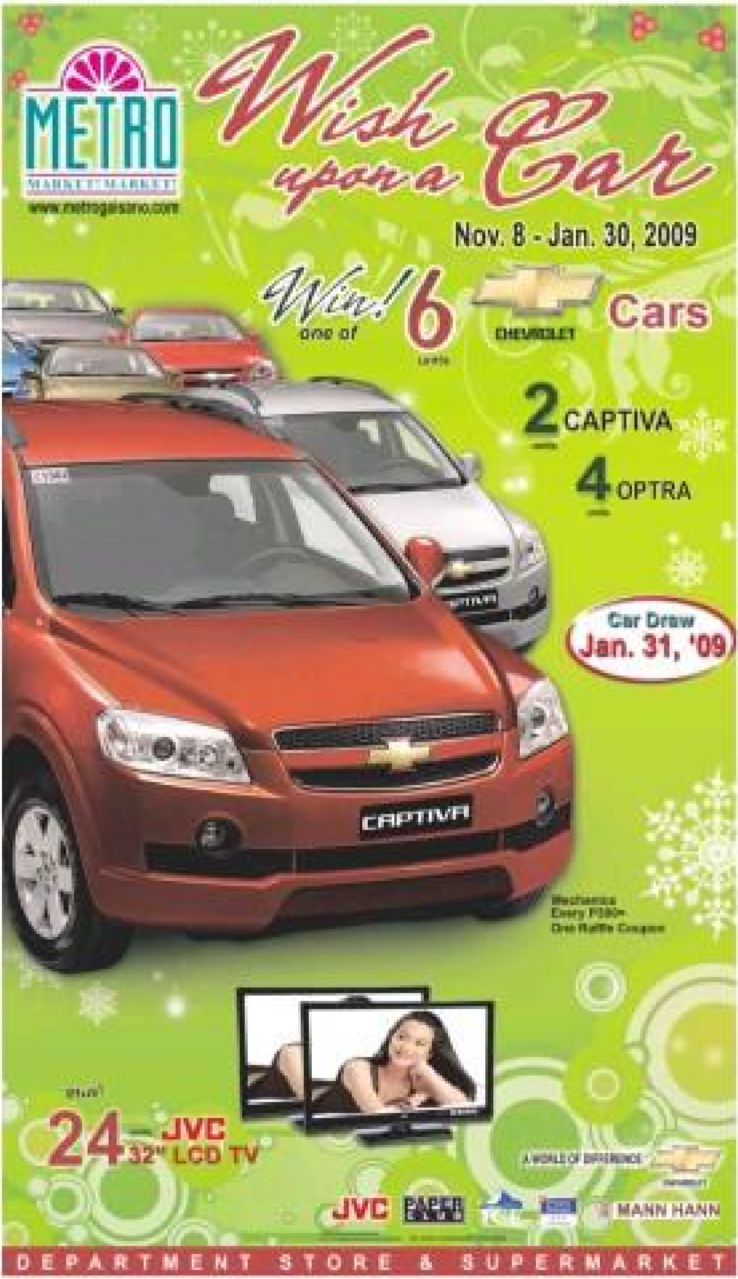
Negros solons seek better shield for RP sugar

Execs push taxes on lowlands for watershed use



James outguns Wade, Heat; Celtics up





New Year wish: A banner year in RP sports

ONE GAME AT A TIME



Plans for Batang Pinoy revival on

SPORTS

Pacman win seen in ESPN poll



PACQUIAO: Biggest impact

Parks' son keen on playing for U-16 squad

By Jasmine W. Payo

Tagaytay-RP bows to Al Ain

So averts shutout with solid draw



RAY PARKS: I'm still dedicated to the Philippines.

10th grader in Memphis

Can the POC sanction the Jan. 16 cycling election?

BARE EYE



Recah Trinidad

Santos, SHSJ, MisOr fives nail NBTC titles



Yap, Banal patch things up after on-court clash

By Musong Castillo

PSC: Identification of gifted athletes easier now

By June Navarro


GRAND
YEAR-END
SALE
DEC. 26 to JAN. 4
up to
50% OFF
widest selections ever
2009
BABY COMPANY • OUR HOME • KULTURA
SPORTS CENTRAL • TOY KINGDOM
ACE HARDWARE • SURPLUS SHOP
We've got it all for you!
SM
DEPARTMENT STORE

Aplus METRO

DID YOU KNOW

MMDA pats self for better Edsa traffic

Cites benefits of U-turns, loading bays, and strict enforcement of rules

DUE TO MEASURES LIKE U-TURN SLOTS AND loading bays, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority hailed the vast improvement of traffic along Edsa as one of its major accomplishments in 2008.





HAIRCUT JOB

'Tanod' killed by robber he tried to arrest

Van carrying computer goods worth ₱.9M hijacked on Edsa

Going out to party? Lock your doors

Korean abducted by fellow Koreans in Makati; another found dead in QC

Second class citizens?

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo



₱1-M illegal firecrackers seized in Valenzuela City

METROBRIEFS

Bank employee hangs self

Murder, child abuse charges

Challenge to probers

Guests evacuated safely during Ortigas hotel fire

By DJ Yap

Another fire, this time in Pasay

Metro Citizen's call

First Balfour's rejoinder

Top dancing place opens in Mandaluyong City



Somalia president quits after 4 years in power

[illegible]



YUSUF

[illegible]

Dictator Stalin voted third most popular Russian

[illegible]



[illegible]

Germany looks to Russia to solve WWII massacre

[illegible]

Bomb kills 16 Afghans; 13 of them are children

[illegible]

Anger, sadness over fabricated Holocaust story

[illegible]

The WORLD

2008: A subprime year

Pro-Thaksin protesters surround Thai parliament

BANGKOK, Thailand—thousands of supporters of exiled former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra ringed Thailand's Parliament on Monday, vowing to remain until the new government dissolves the legislature and calls general elections.



Bangladesh votes under heavy security



In New Hampshire, rescue may come at a price



Mrs. Bush, Rice: Bush presidency not a failure

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Creation of Asean credit guarantee scheme pushed /B2

Editor Raul D. Manalo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

BUSINESS

'09 air travel prospects seen to be bleak

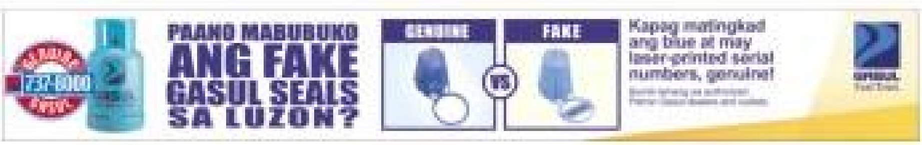
By Riza T. Olchondra

THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD (CAB) SAID THAT THE Philippines would likely feel the pinch in air travel in the first quarter of 2009.

Revenue officials threaten to padlock tax-delinquent firms

CURRENCIES





Creation of Asean credit guarantee scheme pushed

Buyout of financial firms' toxic assets opposed

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK has urged the 13-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations plus China, South Korea and Japan (Asean+3) to step up efforts to establish a regional credit guarantee and investment mechanism in view of the bleak global economic environment.

In its December Asia economic monitor, the ADB said the region should strengthen existing mechanisms under the Asean+3, particularly the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) framework for bilateral swaps. However, the ADB is not too keen on a proposal of the Philippine government to expand the CMI to take out bad assets of ailing financial institutions as what was being done in the western world.

The Asean groups Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

"Because the challenges facing Asian economies are structurally different from those in the US and Europe, strengthening the CMI should not imply mobilizing resources to buy toxic assets from regional financial institutions, but offering immediate liquidity injections to those economies which may have urgent needs," the ADB report said.

"Asean+3 should also consider accelerating the establishment of a credit guarantee and investment mechanism (CGIM) to provide credit guarantees for domestic commercial banks' loans and bond issuance to gain easier access to US dollar funding," it said.

Such a guarantee is envisioned to lower the cost of fund-raising by banks given a lingering global financial turmoil, thereby boosting foreign exchange liquidity in the region.

The ADB vowed to work with the Asean+3 in establishing such a CGIM that will provide credit guarantees for commercial bank loans and bond issuance.

The Asean+3 pledged to expand and "multilateralize" the CMI, agreeing it is an $80-billion regional pool of which 20 percent would be financed by the Asean and 80 percent by China, Japan and Korea.

Asian authorities were also urged to consider establishing an Asian Financial Stability Dialogue to coordinate efforts to address the financial crisis.

"Many national governments introduced measures to support their banking systems to help stabilize financial markets and facilitate economic recovery," the report said.

Coordination of these national measures from a regional and global perspective could help ensure the actions of one country do not add stress to a neighbor's financial system by luring flows into inappropriate or unfair [illegible] the ADB pointed out.

"The region has the opportunity to take collective action to address the knock-on effects of the global financial crisis," the ADB said.

In the meantime, the ADB warned against excessive foreign exchange intervention. While some intervention seemed warranted given the extreme volatility in the market, it said excessive support of the exchange rate and depletion in foreign exchange reserves could make economies more vulnerable to future shocks and constrain policy maneuverability.

It said the region's authorities should remain cautious, as excessive intervention might eventually increase the risk of one-way bets on their currencies, leading to greater exchange rate volatility and a more disruptive adjustment down the road.

In some economies with relatively rigid currency regimes, the ADB said introducing greater flexibility may also help enhance the effectiveness of monetary and fiscal stimulus, while rebalancing demand.

Policymakers in many emerging East Asian economies need to deepen and broaden structural reforms to rebalance the sources of growth from an over-reliance on exports to domestic demand, it said.

Galoc plans to resume oil production

OIL PRODUCTION AT THE GALOC field in offshore northwest Palawan is scheduled to start before the end of January, as necessary repairs on the equipment used for production take place over the next several days.

Service contract operator Galoc Production Co. said the owner of the floating production, storage and offloading (FPSO) facility, Rubicon Offshore International, was now preparing to send a vessel to the Palawan contract area to do the repairs.

"Rubicon is preparing their vessel, the Rubicon Maverick, which is presently in Singapore, for mobilization to the Galoc field to undertake this reinstatement," GPC said in a statement. "The vessel is expected to arrive in the field and commence installed work early January 2009 and production is anticipated to resume before the end of January, subject to weather [conditions]."

Earlier, GPC said the Rubicon Intrepid had to be disconnected from the mooring and riser systems due to adverse weather conditions in the area. *—Abigail L. Ho*



BUSINESS ICON

Megaworld chair and CEO Andrew Tan (right) receives from President Macapagal-Arroyo and BizNewsAsia publisher Tony Lopez the BizNewsAsia Business Icon Gold Award. The award was given to Tan for setting the highest standard in management and entrepreneurship through his many trailblazing township projects including Eastwood City and McKinley Hill.

6 wind power deals for award in '09

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY said it would award six pre-commercial contracts for wind resource development next year.

Up for award are four sites in Ilocos Norte, one site in Negros Occidental and another in Negros Oriental to three companies, the DOE said in its 2008 accomplishment report.

Lopez-led Energy Development Corp. has been pre-qualified to assess and develop the Nagsurot site, and has also entered the pre-qualification stage for the Pagudpud site, both in Ilocos Norte.

Two more sites in Pagudpud are up for award to Northern Luzon UPC Asia Corp., which has submitted all the requirements for its pre-commercial contract application.

The DOE, however, still has to resolve the matter of some areas contained in the company's application that overlap with the Pagudpud site that EDC is eyeing.

Outside of Luzon, Constellation Energy Corp. has applied for the development of wind power sites in Ilog, Negros Occidental and in Tanjay, Pamplona, Negros Oriental.

The company is currently in the pre-qualification phase.

The signing into law of RA 9513, or the Renewable Energy Act of 2008, is expected to spur investments in the renewable energy sector, including wind power, because of the incentives that the law provides.

Some of these incentives are exemption from tariff duties and zero-rated value-added tax for the importation of machinery and equipment for the first 10 years of an operating contract, as well as tax credit on domestic capital equipment and services.

Special realty tax rates will be imposed on equipment and machinery to be used for renewable energy development. An income tax holiday will also be granted to potential investors for the first seven years of commercial operations.

Carbon credits to be derived from renewable energy projects will likewise be tax free.

'09 air travel prospects seen to be bleak

From page B1

[illegible] in 2007.

"It's an especially good growth rate considering that airlines expanded capacity by 11 percent," CAB deputy executive director Porvenir Porciuncula said. "That indicates that the market grew faster than expected despite the effects of high oil prices."

According to CAB data, Cebu Pacific carried 2.97 million passengers this year compared with 2.26 million last year. Flag carrier Philippine Airlines carried 2.25 million from 1.99 million last year.

Asian Spirit carried 250,000 passengers from 240,000. Air Philippines carried 623,000 passengers from 544,000 last year. South East Asian Airlines (SEAir) flew 156,000 revenue passengers from 136,000 in the same period last year.

Revenue officials threaten . . .

From page B1

nal Revenue Code.

"The new program will help instill 'fear' among tax evaders and encourage them to become tax compliant, said the member of Esguerra's staff.

Latest data from the Department of Finance, mother agency of the BIR, showed that tax collection shortfall by the BIR had ballooned to P[illegible] billion as of October.

The BIR, the largest source of government revenues from among all line agencies, collected P[illegible] billion from taxes in January to October this year compared with the P[illegible] billion goal for the 10-month period.

Some officials from the Department of Finance agreed that the BIR might find it difficult to meet its full-year tax collection goal of P[illegible] billion given the shortfall it posted as of October.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

[illegible]

CURRENCIES

[illegible]

BUSINESS

DA goes for 'high impact' projects to fight crisis

Massive spending on infrastructure seen creating new jobs

Philex Dec. shipment slips

2008 not a very good year for RP seaweed sector



GREEN GOLD

RP economy may not be so bad in '09



VILLEGAS

Japanese affiliates bearish on profit prospects

LIFESTYLE Wellness



In 2008, they ran, wakeboarded —or sat in yoga repose



AS PEOPLE RAN TO SHOW support for the fight against breast cancer, to save reefs, to recycle, or surfed to clean up the shores, the year has also seen many firsts in the country's fitness industry. More and more Filipinos are flexing their muscles, literally, to support cause-oriented events, whether it's out of personal passion for the sport or the cause, or to stay fit or lose weight.

For as long as people continue to live demanding lives and to dip their fingers into the cookie jar, keeping a fitness regimen will never run out of style.

Running

Whether to lose weight, to keep fit, or to be "in," running has become more popular than ever.

This year saw the sport going to the extreme with the first-ever trail running ultra marathon held last July. Powered by The North Face, the trail running ultra marathon had the first 100-km solo and relay (50 km each), with cutoff time set at 30 hours. Ninety-five brave men and women joined the 100-km leg; only 26 survived.

Yoga

The opposite of speed, the fast-rising star

IN 2008 C2

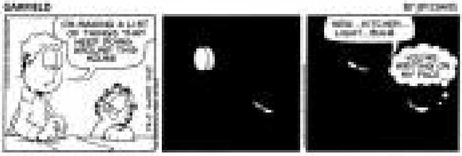
The year saw many firsts in fitness





ComicRelief

GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY — BY P.M. JUNIOR



DICK TRACY



LOVEBABIES — BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO



JAMES BOND



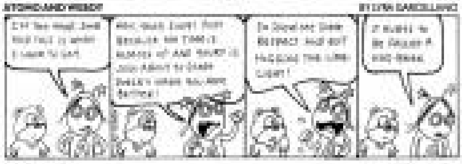
DIVINE COMEDY — BY STEVEN PABALINAS



BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT



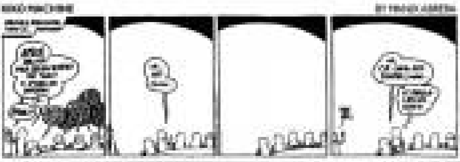
ATOMO AND WENDY



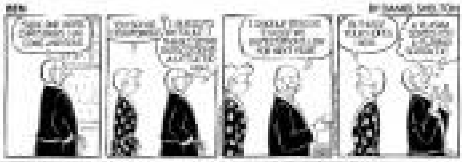
TULDOK



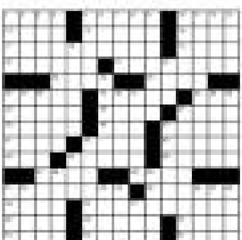
MIND MACHINE

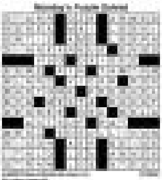


BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCES DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku — By Dave Green

1		5				9		3
				4				
6			9		2			8
		9	2		4	8		
	6						1	
		4	5		3	6		
7			4		9			6
				5				
4		3				7		2

Difficulty Level ★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill in the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

How to draw a realistic wellness checklist for 2009

By Mitch Felipe
Contributor



ORGANIZED home office www.pubdesigns.com

PEOPLE SET NEW YEAR'S resolutions without thinking if they're workable or not, based on one's available time, resources, attitude and abilities. Assess your situation and what happened this year to be able to set more realistic goals for 2009.

Get organized

Have a positive attitude



POSITIVE attitude

Inspire yourself



INSPIRE yourself

'Me' time



A "ME" time

Meet with your partner



MEET with your partner

Set your goals



WRITING your goals

Spend time to learn new things, preferably about self-growth





11 nonnegotiable New Year's resolutions

INSIDE OUT



Cory Quirino

Get rid of your baggage, inside and out

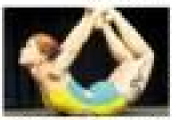
New Year's milk bath

In 2008, they ran, wakeboarded . . .

From page C1

Lifestyle coaching

Sports tourism



FLEX your way into fitness with yoga.

Group-exercise classes



RUNNING, more popular than ever



Personal butler service, biggest Apple store in Asia in new mall

"ONE CAN NEVER HAVE enough malls" seems to be the mantra of developers these days as more and more shopping malls have been popping up in the past couple of years.

That is why at the center of all the shopping centers and eating malls [illegible] Eastwood City Megaworld Corp. opened Eastwood Mall. "We saw the need to create a mall that was different in terms of design and service," Kevin Tan, Megaworld Commercial division head, explains.

With its world-class interior design marked by spacious hallways and luxurious lounges for relaxation, this is not your typical mall. Each store is given enough space to show its merchandise as well as interiors. The mall offers a full-scale concierge and personal butler service. The concierge is not just there to give directions to the stores, they will walk with the customer and take him/her there. The butler is also around to log one's shopping bags to the car.

Eastwood Mall will be completed in January. The first batch of the [illegible] shops is already open. On the first floor are Nine West, [illegible], Jessica, The Body Shop, [illegible] on the second level, [illegible] [illegible]. On the third floor are the children's clothing and lifestyle stores that include [illegible].

By the second week of January the first [illegible] cinema will be open. A few years ago, Eastwood Cinemas were the first to introduce the couple seats; they have taken it a step higher with the Philippines' first twin-seater La-z-boy couch in a movie theater.

Some of the dining restaurants are now open, filling up the Central Walk and its lagoon.

Mac aficionados can flock to Eastwood City in January. The biggest Apple store in Asia will open at Eastwood Mall. For luxury shopping enthusiasts, the first [illegible] Specialist Store, which has 13 luxury brands in spacious setting, will open next month.

Call 687-6770 to 74 or visit [illegible].



QUEZON City mayor Sonny Belmonte (center) led the ribbon-cutting during the soft opening of the Eastwood Mall with (from left) councilor Dante de Guzman, Megaworld chair and CEO Andrew Tan, director Katherine Tan and commercial division head Kevin Tan.



APPLE opens to welcome shoppers



THE NEW Eastwood Mall has four modern-style residential condominium towers, including a five-star hotel.



We are the best judges of what happened in the past

INNER AWARENESS



Jaime T. Licauco

"I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING YOUR ARTICLES since I was a kid and have been dragged along by my mom from one spiritist or healer to another. She was a very [illegible] person. There was one lady who told her that she unintentionally caused someone great pain.

"It was because of her that I got hooked on your article. She has so many out-of-this-world experiences that somehow have rubbed off to the family, especially to me.

"Is there by any chance you'll be visiting [illegible]?

"I've already had a few déjà vu experiences but they were not stronger since I came here and decided to live here for good with my husband. Since I joined my present company I've always had the distinct feeling that I and my Director and her family have been traveling together in more than one lifetime. I don't know how to explain it, but I know you understand what I mean. Can you shed light on this?" —SP

Not everything that happens to us in this lifetime is a result of a past life deed. Whoever told your mom that what's happening to her was because she "unintentionally did something that caused pain to another" [illegible]. We must not believe everything another person tells us because the best judge of what happened in the past is we ourselves. That's why I prefer mostly to guide people to see their own past.

I've always been fascinated by Burma. I've been told by one very well-read participant who lives in Burma that the Burmese type of Buddhism is deeper than those of more known Buddhist countries. That's why your psychic perceptions grew there. Regarding your question, it is very possible that you and your director may have met each other in previous lives.

If you can find someone who can organize seminars there, I can go and conduct them in Burma. It is not impossible that we will meet soon enough. Then I will be happy to answer all your questions.

Feedback from Canada

"About your article appreciating the possibility of lost civilizations such as Atlantis and Lemuria, over the years I have had the opportunity to speak with many learned people who have been researching and writing about catastrophism and diffusionism to dispel our peculiarly Victorian notions of history. They included academics and scientists from varied disciplines, who agreed that a very short time ago, which, relative with the Neolithic, and by [illegible] [illegible] we humans simply escaped the rapid meltdowns of the glaciers and subsequent rising ocean levels, as well as massive tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanoes, and we, post-cataclysm, created civilizations which then crippled along [illegible] with fragments of knowledge somehow passed down... from an ancient time when the Sahara and Amazon were green and fertile land... until about 17,000 years ago when things hit the fan—and then you must have an appreciation for Thoth and his preservation of a pillar-related library of knowledge, which he, the god of wisdom, left in the care and control of [illegible], and the rest is history, to understand the "line of [illegible]" that comes simultaneously nearly 10,000 years ago in the Indus, [illegible] and [illegible] valleys." —[illegible] of Toronto, Canada

I appreciate your thoughts on this subject. There's so little info but so much controversy generated by the question of lost civilization that it is very difficult for the average person to separate fact from opinion or fantasy or imagination.

I merely summarized what others have said about the subject without making any conclusion.

Note: The next Basic ESP/Intuition Development seminar will be held Jan. 17 and 18, 2009, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Seminars, Karma & Reincarnation on Jan. 24, 2009, 1-5 p.m. at Rm. 308 Prince Plaza I, Legaspi St., Greenbelt Makati. Call 810-7245; 892-8856; fax 815-0990; e-mail jaimelicauco@yahoo.com.

Nutritional supplement for kids



IT'S AN ALL-TOO FAMILIAR sight at many dinner tables. A mother, tired after a long day at work, cajoles her child into finishing his food. What should be a pleasant mealtime with the family turns into a veritable power struggle between the mother and her hard-to-feed (HTF) child.

Nutritional deficiency can make a child more sluggish, perform poorly in school and develop at a weaker pace.

Studies show that during a child's developmental stage, a reluctance to try unfamiliar foods called neophobia is normal. The average child takes about eight to 15 presentations of new food before he or she willingly accepts it.

Unfortunately, well-meaning parents usually resort to bribing or scolding to solve the problem. This is hardly an effective measure, since it makes the kids concentrate on the punishment or reward instead. One of the best measures parents can take is to improve their own eating habits, since kids are masters of mimicry. Be get ready to dig into that salad bowl yourself if you want your son or daughter to develop a taste for the healthy stuff.

Other methods to help boost their appetites include: using fun names for foods they might not like such as "Rabbit Sticks" for carrots or "Superpower Food" for spinach; serving one food alongside old recipes to ease acceptance; presenting one new dish at a time; allowing the child to help in preparing the food and planning the menu; combining a favorite food with a new one such as vegetables with pasta and spaghetti sauce; having a regular picnic with the kids—sometimes children are more keen on eating new foods outside the usual dining room setting.

One way parents can balance their HTF kid's diet is to provide a nutritional supplement such as doctor-recommended PediaSure Plus. It provides the necessary ingredients to complement a kid's diet. Even the pickiest eaters will relish the delicious Classic Vanilla and Premium Chocolate flavors.

A balanced diet, proper care and nutritional supplement will help an active kid keep up with the challenges of growing up.

25th convention of Philippine Diabetes Association

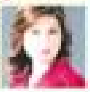


TO CELEBRATE World Diabetes Day, Equal low-calorie sweetener gave out hot coffee and tea to delegates of the 25th Annual Convention of the Philippine Diabetes Association recently at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Ortigas Center, Pasig City. As the doctors, dietitians and other health practitioners from all over the country enjoyed their break with hot beverages, they agreed that even diabetics can still enjoy the sweet things in life.

ENTERTAINMENT

FRANCINE PRIETO

WISH LIST

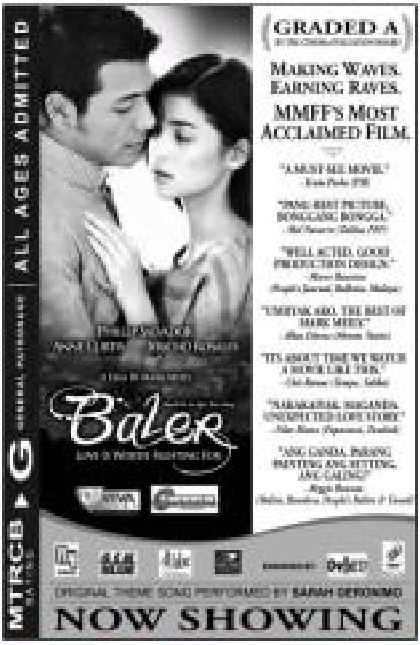




Top 20 show biz stories











Top 20 show biz stories

From page D1

At the Cinemas

GLORIETTA 1	1 MAGKAIBIGAN	2 SHAKE, RATTLE & ROLL X	3 DESPERADAS 2	4 DAYO
GLORIETTA 4	1 ONE NIGHT ONLY	2 ISKUL BUKOL	3 BALER	
	4 SHAKE, RATTLE & ROLL X	5 DESPERADAS 2	6 ANG TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	7 DAYO
GREENBELT 1	1 ONE NIGHT ONLY	2 DAYO		
GREENBELT 3	1 ONE NIGHT ONLY	2 BALER		
	3 ISKUL BUKOL	4 MAGKAIBIGAN	5 ANG TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 SHAKE, RATTLE & ROLL X	2 DESPERADAS 2		
	3 ANG TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	4 DAYO	5 BALER	
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 DESPERADAS 2	2 SHAKE, RATTLE & ROLL X	3 ONE NIGHT ONLY	4 [illegible]
MARKET! MARKET!	1 MAGKAIBIGAN	2 ISKUL BUKOL		
	3 BALER	4 ONE NIGHT ONLY	5 ANG TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	
TRINOMA	1 MAGKAIBIGAN	2 ISKUL BUKOL	3 BALER	4 DAYO
	5 ANG TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	6 DESPERADAS 2	7 SHAKE, RATTLE & ROLL X	

At the Malls

Glorietta
Greenbelt
Alabang Town Center
Ayala Center Cebu
Market! Market!
Trinoma

Yesterday

Rizal, mother portrayed in the first Filipino movie

It was screened at the Opera House in 1912





DOÑA Teodora Alonzo was portrayed by Chananay Ballesa, a zarzuela performer whom Dr. Jose Rizal admired and, in fact, immortalized as a character in his "Noli Me Tangere."

By Lynn Sicat-Pareja
Contributor

HERE'S A SHOW BIZ TRIVIA ON NATIONAL hero Dr. Jose Rizal, whose martyrdom the country commemorates today.

The image of his mother, Teodora Alonzo, was shown on the big screen when moving pictures made their debut in Manila. The movie was titled "Life and Death of Dr. Jose Rizal," which was screened at the Grand Opera House on Aug. 29, 1912.

The movie was made a year after Alonzo died at the age of 84.

She was portrayed in "Life and Death..." by Chananay Ballesa, a zarzuela actress whom Dr. Rizal had seen perform in town fiestas and admired. She became one of his inspirations as a novelist, and was immortalized in his "Noli Me Tangere."

When she accepted the role of Teodora Alonzo, Ballesa was already in her 50s—a "golden girl."

Her name was given top billing on the theater marquee, side by side with that of the principal actor, Honorio Lopez, who portrayed Rizal.

'Nanay'

It is interesting to note that the last two syllables of Ballesa's first name—"na-nay"—later became the Tagalog word for "mother." It was the word that Rizal uttered with heartbreaking sentiment to Alonzo in the scene of their last embrace.

The movie's story starts at the time that Rizal was condemned to death and Alonzo wrote to Governor-General Camilo de Polavieja, begging him to spare her son's life because he was innocent of the charges brought against him.

Accompanied by her daughters and Josephine Bracken (portrayed by Titay Molina), Alonzo waited for hours until sun set at the gate of Malacañang for the governor-general to emerge from his office.

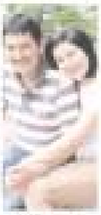
Blessing

When Polavieja walked by at last, a tearful Alonzo threw herself at his feet. But all her supplications were for naught and her beloved son did not get the pardon that she had pleaded for.

When the time came for Rizal to face the firing squad, all that Alonzo could give him were her final embrace and a mother's blessing.

Teodora Alonzo outlived her son by 13 years, long enough to see him proclaimed National Hero of the Filipino People by the American regime.

She declined a government pension offered to her and, instead, preferred to live a quiet life, never complaining and, by all existing accounts, no longer embittered by her suffering. To many Filipinos, she remains to be Mother Courage herself, a woman of inner strength, faith and fortitude.



RUDY and wife Lorna

Top 20 show biz stories

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